

TOP SECRET

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PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD  
708 Jackson Place, N.W.  
Washington 25, D. C.

Staff Meeting, March 25, 1953

PRESENT:

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Schwinn (State)  
Roberts (ODMS)  
Godel (Defense)  
[redacted] (CIA)

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Agenda for Informal Board Meeting, March 26

Staff noted that Mr. Stassen and Mr. Allen Dulles will not be present at the Board meeting. No alternates will attend in their stead.

Morgan requested staff comments on the following agenda items:

(1) Rockefeller Committee Proposal to create new Foreign Information Agency and a Security Strategy Board replacing PSB.

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[redacted] and Schwinn said their principals will want to review the Rockefeller Committee proposals set forth in a letter of March 21 to C. D. Jackson and probably will not be able to give final position at meeting tomorrow. [redacted] said he was aware that agencies had not had sufficient opportunity to study Rockefeller's proposal; he believes C. D. Jackson only wishes to discuss the proposal in a preliminary way. [redacted] pointed out that the third paragraph of the enclosure to the Rockefeller letter would assign a role to the Security Strategy Board that differs basically with PSB's present charter.

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Godel and Schwinn concurred with [redacted]'s comment. Schwinn added that the Rockefeller proposal to make the Director of the new Information Agency a member of the PSB pending completion of the new arrangements would water down the role of the Under Secretary as a Board member since a subordinate (IIA head) is given equal status with a superior (Under Secretary of State).

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Godel reported this Rockefeller proposal was discussed in the [redacted] Jackson Committee yesterday at some length, but C. D. Jackson was not present. After prolonged discussion, the members of the Jackson Committee concluded that there are many problems which are purely interagency in nature in the area of cold war operations that can only be handled successfully by an interagency board such as PSB. Godel thinks the Jackson Committee--which was also asked to comment on the Rockefeller proposals--will report the foregoing views to the Rockefeller group.

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General Roberts reported he had heard informally that the Rockefeller Committee may be taking the aforementioned proposal up with the President tomorrow.

(2) Korean Contingency Plan.

In reply to Schwinn's query, Browne reported that the substance of the March 25 memorandum to the Board members on subject plan had been cleared with Joe Phillips.

(3) CIA Annex to the Plan on Stalin's Death.

Staff noted that although CIA's Annex was distributed to Board members at meeting on March 19, Stassen and Kyes had returned theirs to Dulles and had not yet received them by mail. Staff suggested that this Annex should properly be referred to the WGS for review. Ford commented that Kyes had originally requested this Annex be submitted to the Board for approval. Godel believes Kyes is prepared to modify this request now. Schwinn observed that the Board ought not to be put in a position of approving agency operating plans such as this. It was the consensus that each liaison representative should recommend to their principals that the CIA Annex should be referred to WGS and that the Board be kept advised on it by WGS but not be asked to approve it.

Schwinn recommended that paragraph 2 of Part II of PSB D-40 just be noted by the Board members as operating guidance for overt information operations rather than be approved as a formal guidance. After staff discussion it was agreed that the agency liaison representatives would recommend to their principals that the Stalin plan be approved with the exception of paragraph 3 Part II "Overt Information Operations" which should only be noted and referred to WGS as recommended guidance for overt information operations.

(4) Status Presidential Message and (5) Defection.

No staff comments. [REDACTED] reported that these items had been suggested by Mr. Jackson.

Other Business.

[REDACTED] reported request from Brewster Morris and Henry Kellermann in State to talk to German Bundestag VIP's next week. [REDACTED] reluctantly agreed, provided Board will approve. He says he will be unable to divulge any current substantive information to them although he may be able to discuss PSB's history in broad terms. Morgan to take up with Board tomorrow.

Godel said a possible item which may come up for discussion tomorrow is a current suggestion to consider a diplomatic trade of the Czech transport plane passengers who wish to return in exchange for the return of [REDACTED]

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Meeting on Future Use of Polling Techniques

25X1A [redacted] reported Frank Wisner is running a meeting tomorrow to  
25X1A discuss the polling question. [redacted] will attend on behalf of PSB, 25X1A  
if he is able.

Budget Cuts in OIR's External Research Staff

25X1A [redacted] reported that recent budget cuts in OIR have forced the  
State Department to eliminate the psychological intelligence function  
in the External Research Staff. Staff noted that Defense, CIA, PSB  
and other agencies will suffer considerably if this function is cut  
out. Staff observed that Defense and CIA now provide some funds for  
the support of this ERS staff. [redacted] inquired whether decision had 25X1A  
been finally made or whether representations could still be made to  
appropriate State officials concerning adverse effect of this move.  
Schwinn will make inquiries and advise Morgan.

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25X1A [redacted]  
25X1A [redacted] advised Schwinn he had note from Joe Phillips enclosing  
a letter from [redacted]. [redacted] believes no further action 25X1A  
called for; Schwinn agrees.

Jackson Committee Discussion

Schwinn reported that Assistant Secretary McCardle went to the  
Jackson Committee this morning to discuss the type of policy coord-  
inating mechanism which will be needed if IIA is taken out of State.

Volunteer Freedom Corps

25X1A [redacted] reported General Crittenberger has requested that a  
supporting propaganda plan be developed to accompany his basic plan  
when it is submitted to the FSC. [redacted] anxious to get started; he 25X1A  
suggested representatives of member agencies meet with him informally  
to give guidance on this job. Godel urged that PSB staff prepare this  
supporting plan.

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